

# ABSTRACT

[0025] A roller for turf mowing equipment utilizes an interlocking connection with a gap between roller sections and a resilient sleeve to protect the connection. The gap between adjacent sections accommodates thermal expansion, thereby preventing binding and roller failure. The resilient sleeve prevents infiltration of contaminants through the gap. In addition, the resilient sleeve fits tightly between the roller sections urging them apart to maintain the gap and a uniform section distribution during use.